

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 NSF-01 ERDA-05 AGRE-00

COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INT-05 /040 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6415

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DEPT PASS NSF FOR LEISE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, PFOR, UR, US

SUBJ: US-USSR S&T AGREEMENT: MICROBIOLOGY: FEED PROTEINS (01.0701)

AND COMPUTERIZED SIMULATION (01.0702); JOINT CONFERENCE

REF: MOSCOW 5234

1. SCICOUNS MET WITH SHENDEREY APRIL 18 AND RELAYED TO HIM IN STRONGEST TERMS U.S. DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE SUDDENPOSTPONEMENT OF THE SYMPOSIUM. SCICOUNS NOTED INTER ALIA (1) THIS WAS THE SECOND POSTPONEMENT, (2) THAT GROUP OF 18 U.S. PARTICIPANTS HAVE ALREADY MADE EXTENSIVE TRAVEL PLANS IN EUROPE AND CANCELLATION WILL CAUSE THEM MUCH DIFFICULTY AND EMBARRASSMENT AND (3) THAT IT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO INTEREST U.S. EXPERTS IN FUTURE ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA IN VIEW OF VERY DISAPPOINTING SOVIET PERFORMANCE TO DATE. SCICOUNS ALSO STATED THAT HE CONSIDERED THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO HOLD SYMPOSIUM AS SCHEDULED, EVEN THOUGH NOT ALL THE SOVIET PAPERS ARE READY, THAN RISK THE CONSEQUENCES OF THIS SECOND POSTPONEMENT.

2. SHENDEREY RESPONDED THAT HE MUCH REGRETTE THE NEED FOR THE POSTPONEMENT BUT DUE TO THE LACK OF PREPAREDNESS OF THE SOVIET SIDE IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO HOLD THE SEMINAR AS SCHEDULED.

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HE SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN A SERIES OF MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN HIM AND THE SEMINAR ORGANIZERS WHICH RESULTED IN THIS UNFORTUNATE SITUATION. HOWEVER, HE WILL NOW PERSONALLY TAKE CHARGE OF THE SEMINAR PREPARATION. HE PROMISED THAT THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD BE READY TO HOLD THE SEMINAR AT THE U.S. CONVENIENCE AT ANY TIME AFTER MAY 20 AND GUARANTEED THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER POSTPONEMENTS. DESPITE SCICOUNS QUESTIONING, SHENDEREY WOULD

NOT ELABORATE FURTHER ON WHAT "MISUNDERSTANDINGS" ON THE SOVIET SIDE LED TO THE REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT.

3. SHENDEREY STATED HE HOPED THE U.S. SIDE WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT THE POSTPONEMENT WAS ONLY DUE TO THE TECHNICAL UNPREPAREDNESS OF THE SOVIET PARTICIPANTS AND IS NOT IN THE LEAST AN INDICATION OF SOVIET DISINTEREST IN MICROBIOLOGY COOPERATION. HE NOTED THAT ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THE U.S. HAD ALSO REQUESTED POSTPONEMENTS IN THE MICROBIOLOGY PROJECT AND THAT THE SOVIETS HAD ACCEPTED THESE WITH GOOD GRACE. AS EVIDENCE OF SOVIET INTENTIONS REGARDING MICROBIOLOGY, SHENDEREY STATED THAT HIS GROUP HAS BEEN HARD AT WORK ON THE GEOMICROBIOLOGY PROJECT WHICH HAD BEEN SUGGESTED BY THE U.S. SIDE.

4. COMMENT: SHENDEREY GAVE THE APPEARANCE OF BEING EITHER VERY TIRED OR ILL AT THE ABOVE DISCUSSION, AND EVEN NOTED THAT HE HAD BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL LAST OCTOBER. HE SEEMED GENUINELY SORRY THAT THE SYMPOSIUM HAD TO BE POSTPONED AND ANXIOUS THAT THIS SHOULD NOT DAMAGE MICROBIOLOGY COOPERATION. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE POSTPONEMENT IS ANOTHER CASE OF EXTREMELY POOR SOVIET ORGANIZATION AND NOTHING MORE, AND THAT WHILE THIS IS NOT EXCUSEABLE IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD IN THIS LIGHT. END COMMENT.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, BIOLOGY, SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS, TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGES, FEED, ADP SERVICES, COMPUTERS  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Subject:** US-USSR S&T AGREEMENT: MICROBIOLOGY: FEED PROTEINS (01.0701) AND COMPUTERIZED SIMULATION (01.0702): JOINT CONFERENCE  
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